

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

ACDA-05 SAJ-01 CU-02 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 AGR-05

TRSE-00 /081 W

----- 121891

R 210858Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 299

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

INFO USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, KN, KS, JA

SUBJECT: RECENT STATEMENTS BY KIM IL-SUNG

REF: A. SEOUL 3544 B. SEOUL 3496 C. TOKYO 6317

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. FULL TRANSLATION OF TEXT MAY 18 YOMIURI INTERVIEW WITH KIM IL SUNG IS CARRIED BELOW. KIM'S REMARKS, ADEQUATELY SUMMARIZED IN MAY

19 UPI DISPATCH (REF A), ARE EVEN MORE PEACEABLE IN TONE THAN HIS MAY 8 CONVERSATION WITH MIYAKA (REF C). EMBASSY AGREES THAT KIM IS TRYING TO PROJECT A NON-BELIGERANT IMAGE TO JAPANESE AND REASSURE THEM ABOUT HIS INTENTIONS.

2. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO FIND ANY EVIDENCE HERE THAT KIM MENTIONED TUNNELS IN HIS MIYAKE INTERVIEW.

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3. TEXT OF ARTICLE FOLLOWS: BEGIN QUOTE. (PEKING, MAY 18, CORRESPONDENT KAMAI) JAPAN-KOREA CULTURAL EXCHANGE ASSOCIATION DIRECTOR TAKEO TAKAGI (A FRIEND OF THE YOMIURI SHIMBUN), WHO IS NOW VISITING THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA (NORTH KOREA), AT THE INVITATION OF THE KOREAN EXTERNAL

CULTURAL LIASON ASSOCIATION, HAD AN INTERVIEW WITH CHAIRMAN KIM IL-SUNG AT HIS VILLA IN THE PYONGYANG SUBURB OF SAMCHOK ON THE 17TH. THE INTERVIEWS TOOK PLACE AT THE VILLA, WHICH WAS LIKE AN ENCHANTED LAND, WHERE THE ONLY SOUNDS TO BE HEARD WERE THE SONGS OF BIRDS. CHAIRMAN KIM WAS THE VERY PICTURE OF HEALTH, AND HIS COMPLEXION WAS ALSO EXCELLENT. FOR ABOUT FIVE HOURS, HE EXPRESSED HIS VIEWS VIGOROUSLY ON THE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL SITUATIONS.

4. ON THE NIGHT OF THE 18TH, DIRECTOR TAKAGI SENT FROM PYONGYANG THE FOLLOWING REPORT OF THE INTERVIEW: AT THE WEEKEND ON SATURDAY (17TH), CHAIRMAN KIM IL-SUNG INVITED ME TO HIS VILLA IN THE SUBURBS OF PYONGYANG, AND LUNCHING TOGETHER, SPENT HALF A DAY IN PLEASANT CONVERSATION. AT THIS MEETING, CHAIRMAN KIM-IL SUNG, WITH THE PREFACING REMARK THAT "THIS IS MY PRIVATE VIEW", STATED AS FOLLOWS:

5. "POLITICAL TALKS ARE ENDLESS, BUT TODAY, I WOULD LIKE TO TALK TO YOU FREELY, AS A FRIEND, AND AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE REPUBLIC. I VISITED CHINA AFTER A LAPSE OF MORE THAN 10 YEARS BUT IT WAS A PLEASANT VISIT, AS I WAS ABLE TO RENEW ACQUAINTANCES WITH MANY OLD FRIENDS AND COMRADES-AT-ARMS AT VARIOUS PLACES. EVEN VIEWED HISTORICALLY, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHINA AND KOREA HAS A LONG AND DEEP HISTORY. WE FOUGHT TOGETHER IN THE AGE OF RESISTANCE AGAINST JAPAN. MANY KOREANS ALSO TOOK PART IN THE WAR AGAINST CHIANG KAI-SHEK, TOO. IT IS ALSO WELL KNOWN THAT CHINA SENT VOLUNTEER FORCES IN THE KOREAN WAR. THE RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND KOREA CANNOT BE SEVERED, NO MATTER WHO TRIES TO OBSTRUCT THEM. THERE ARE RUMORS THAT SOUTH KOREA IS APPROACHING CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION AND THAT IT IS TRYING TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THEM. HOWEVER, NEITHER CHINA NOR THE SOVIET UNION WILL HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT. THE RELATIONSHIP OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN CHINA AND KOREA HAS CONTINUED FOR SEVERAL DOZEN YEARS, EVER SINCE CHAIRMAN MAO AND I ESTABLISHED TIES, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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AND IT IS INDESTRUCTABLE AND WILL LAST FOREVER. IN THE COURSE OF MY VISIT TO CHINA THIS TIME, TOO, THIS WAS MUTUALLY EMPHASIZED REPEATEDLY."

6. NEXT, CHAIRMAN KIM STATED AS FOLLOWS THAT NORTH KOREA HAS NO INTENTION WHATSOEVER FOR ADVANCING SOUTHWARD, POINTING TO THE ACTUAL SITUATION: "OUR COUNTRY IS NOW IN THE VERY MIDDLE OF RICE-PLANTING. IT IS LITERALLY TOTAL MOBILIZATION OF THE PEOPLE, AND EVERYONE, INCLUDING THE SOLDIERS, STUDENTS AND PUBLIC SERVICE PERSONNEL, ARE NOW OUT IN THE RICE PADDIES, PLANTING RICE PLANTS. THE SITUATION IS AS YOU (TAKAGI) YOURSELF SAW. IT IS SAID THAT THE WHOLE WORLD IS NOW IN A FOOD CRISIS. HOWEVER, OUR COUNTRY EVEN HAS STOCK PILES OF SURPLUS RICE. LAST YEAR, THE INDONESIAN FOREIGN

MINISTER VISITED OUR COUNTRY AND SAID THAT HIS COUNTRY IS IN DIFFICULTIES. WE SOLD 200,000 TONS OF RICE TO INDONESIA. THIS YEAR, TOO, AGRICULTURE IS BEING CARRIED OUT, BASED ON SCIENTIFIC PLANNING, AND I AM OPTIMISTIC THAT WE WILL HAVE A GOOD HARVEST THIS YEAR, TOO. HOWEVER, SOUTH KOREA HAS TRAINED ITS CANNONS IN OUR DIRECTION, AND IT IS SHOUTING THAT WE WILL ADVANCE SOUTHWARD. ESPECIALLY SINCE THE FAVORABLE CHANGE IN THE INDOCHINA SITUATION, IT IS FURTHER STRENGTHENING ITS ARMAMENTS AGAINST US. HOWEVER, AS YOU YOURSELF HAVE SEEN, WE ARE COMPLETELY ABSORBED IN RICE-PLANTING, MOBILIZING ALL THE PEOPLE, WHEN OUR ARMED FORCES ARE DEVOTING ALL THEIR EFFORTS TO HELP IN THE FARMING, SOUTH KOREA IS PUTTING ON ITS HELMET, AND IS TURNING ITS CANNONS AGAINST US, TAKING EMERGENCY MEASURES. HOWEVER, WE ARE NOT AFRAID OF ANYTHING. WE HAVE STATED A NUMBER OF TIMES THAT WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF ADVANCING SOUTHWARD, AT ALL, AND WE HAVE PLEDGED THIS. WHEN THE ARMED FORCES ARE BEING MOBILIZED IN THIS WAY TO HELP IN THE FARMING, IT IS COMPLETELY IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO ADVANCE SOUTHWARD."

7. "THERE IS A SAYING IN OUR COUNTRY THAT 'A NORO (KIND OF DEER FOUND IN KOREA) RUNS AWAY, SCARED BY ITS OWN FART'. THEY THEMSELVES KNOW FULLY WELL THAT WE WILL NOT ADVANCE SOUTHWARD. AMERICA KNOWS IT, TOO. THEIR MAKING A BIG UPROAR ABOUT THE THREAT OF SOUTHWARD ADVANCE FROM OUR SIDE, DESPITE THEIR KNOWING THAT WE WILL NOT DO SO, IS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUPPRESSING THE PEOPLE, FOR SUPPRESSING THE OPPOSITION

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PARTIES AND FOR TRAMPLING DOWN STUDENTS AND OTHER DEMOCRATIC FORCES. THEY ARE TAKING VARIOUS MEASURES, SUCH AS EMERGENCY MEASURES AND A STATE OF EMERGENCY, ONE AFTER ANOTHER. IF WE WERE TO SHOW RESPONSES TO THEM EVERY TIME, WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PUSH INTERNAL CONSTRUCTION WITHIN THE COUNTRY AT ALL. I, HOWEVER, HAVE AN OPTIMISTIC VIEW OF THE SITUATION."

8. "THE MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEM IS THAT OF THE AUTONOMOUS AND PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA. IF KIM DAE-JUNG HAD BEEN ELECTED PRESIDENT, I THINK A PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA WOULD HAVE ALREADY BEEN REALIZED. AFTER ALL, KOREA IS SURROUNDED BY BIG POWERS, SUCH AS THE SOVIET UNION, CHINA, AMERICA AND JAPAN. THE KOREAN QUESTION IS NOT MERELY A QUESTION OF KOREA ALONE, BUT A QUESTION OF THE WORLD. THE WAY TO AN AUTONOMOUS AND PEACEFUL UNIFICATION LIES IN IT, BUT FOR THIS, TOO, THE FIRST THING IS FOR AMERICAN FORCES IN SOUTH KOREA TO TAKE OFF THEIR CAPS AS THE UN FORCES. THE QUESTION MUST BE OVERCOME FROM THAT POINT. AT ANY RATE, TENSION ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA MUST BE AVERTED. I THINK THAT THIS IS THE PUBLIC OPINION OF THE WORLD." END QUOTE.

HODGSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DMZ, TEXT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TOKYO06726
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750178-0584
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197505100/baaaafko.tel
Line Count: 165
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <14 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PFOR, KN, KS, JA, (KIM IL-SUNG), (TATEO TAKAGI)
To: STATE
SEOUL INFO PEKING
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006